

Denean P. Rivera, Colonel, USAF

Colonel Rivera is a career acquisition officer with more than twenty years of acquisition experience. She has served in positions in Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDT&E), Systems Acquisition, Logistics, and headquarters staff and is Level III certified in both Contracting and Program Management. Her initial assignment to Air Armament Center (AAC) at Eglin AFB Florida was as the Deputy Program Manager for the Sensor Fuzed Weapon (SFW)--smart munitions now in the inventory and in use in the War on Terrorism.

Assigned to Aeronautical Systems Center (ASC) at Wright Patterson AFB Ohio, Colonel Rivera was a buyer for B-1B offensive avionics. From ASC, she transferred to the D.C. area and became Chief of Specialty Fuels Division and Acting Chief of Bulk Fuels Division, Defense Fuel Supply Center at Cameron Station. With an Unlimited Warrant, she oversaw the purchase of more than \$3 billion of fuel--\$69 million of which was in direct support of Operation DESERT STORM.

Next came Col Rivera's first pentagon assignment. As Assistant to the Program Executive Officer (PEO) for Weapons, she was responsible for all contractual and funding aspects of the \$30 billion PEO portfolio of weapons: JSTARS, AGM-130, SFW, JDAM, JSOW, AMRAAM, and TSSAM. From the pentagon, she attended Air Command and Staff College (ACSC) in-residence and stayed at ACSC for two more years to teach the Operational Art of War and Leadership.

From ACSC, she reported to the San Antonio Air Logistics Center (ALC). Colonel Rivera was Chief of Staff for the \$13 billion engine privatization source selection. Her responsibilities included planning, organizing, and implementing source selection policies and processes. At the successful conclusion of the source selection, she was selected to be Chief of the Commander's Action Group, reporting directly to the ALC Commander.

From Kelly AFB, Col Rivera came back to the pentagon as Chief of Air Force Paperless Contracting where she gained valuable insight into both DoD and Air Force electronic contracting architecture, tools and the road-ahead. From AQC, she was selected as Military Assistant to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition & Management), where she gained valuable insight into policy and decision-making at the highest levels of Air Force acquisition. From there, Col Rivera attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) where her industry focus was the Healthcare Industry. Of particular interest was the opportunity to visit Tunisia to observe a small developing country implement a large-scale government-supported strategic plan to improve the quality of healthcare for its citizens.

Colonel Rivera holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management from the University of Cincinnati, a Master of Science Degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) in Contracting and Acquisition Management, and a Master of Science Degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) in National Resource Strategy. She is also a graduate of the ICAF Senior Acquisition Course as well as the DSMC Program Management Course.

Colonel Rivera's current position is Chief of Air Force Contracting Policy and Implementation Division, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting) where she is forging the way ahead for a Knowledge-enabled Contracting workforce--Air Force-wide.

Colonel Rivera has two daughters, Jennifer and Lauren.